

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 /021 R

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ARA/AND/C:DCOX(DRAFT)
SER/INC:MWAMPLER

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P 220137Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

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FOR AMBASSADOR AND NARCOTICS COORDINATOR ONLY.

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

1. IN ORDER TO RECRUIT PERSONNEL TO FILL THE AVIATION ADVISOR AND THE TELECOM ADVISOR POSITIONS AT THE EXPIRATION OF CURRENT CONTRACTS, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE (1) AN EVALUATION OF THE NEED FOR CONTINUED CONTRACT SERVICES; AND (2) AN EVALUATION OF THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY OF CURRENT CONTRACTORS AND EMBASSY SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES PROVIDED BY CONTRACTORS.

2. WILL BEALL RENEW HIS CURRENT CONTRACT, OR WOULD HE ACCEPT A CONTRACT WITH A BROADER SCOPE OF DUTIES PERMITTING GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR UTILIZATION OF HIS TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES? IF BEALL DOES NOT WISH TO RENEW, THE DE-
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PARTMENT MUST BEGIN RECRUITMENT AND, POSSIBLY, LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR A REPLACEMENT.

3. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, STRENGTHENED BY RECENT CONVERSATION WITH R. MARTINEZ, THAT WE SHOULD BEGIN RECRUITMENT AND, POSSIBLY, LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR A TELECOM-MUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN WITH A BROADER SCOPE OF EXPERTISE

THAN THAT WHICH MR. ELLIOTT POSSESSES. THE SCOPE OF
TECHNICAL EXPERTISE REQUIRED BY OUR ONGOING PROGRAMS WILL

BE MEASURABLY EXPANDED AS WE GO FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSED
CUSTOMS MARINE PROJECT. WE WOULD BE LOOKING TOWARD A ONE
YEAR CONTRACT WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR A SECOND YEAR.

4. DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING A REGIONAL APPROACH TO THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTH
AMERICA. A TECHNICIAN BASED IN COLOMBIA COULD BE USED IN
BOLIVIA, PERU, OR ECUADOR ON AN AS NEEDED TDY BASIS.
ANOTHER TECHNICIAN, BASED IN EITHER PERU OR BOLIVIA, COULD
BE USED IN COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, OR OTHER PLACES ON THE SAME
AS NEEDED TDY BASIS. IN THIS WAY THE MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN
PROGRAM COUNTRIES WOULD ALWAYS HAVE A TECHNICIAN AVAILABLE
ON SHORT NOTICE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEW ON
THIS APPROACH.

5. WHATEVER YOUR VIEWS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE FOL-
LOWING STEPS BE TAKEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

(A) EMBASSY ADVISE DEPARTMENT OF NEEDS AND REQUEST
NECESSARY ALLOTMENT;
(B) DEPARTMENT PROVIDE ALLOTMENT TO EMBASSY;
(C) EMBASSY GIVE AUTHORITY TO S/NM TECHNICAL SERVICES
DIVISION TO PREPARE PIO/T DOCUMENTATION, IDENTIFY POTENTIAL
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CANDIDATES IF NECESSARY, AND INITIATE AN COORDINATE CON-
TRACTING PROCESS.

6. IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE UNDUE GAPS IN CONTRACTOR SERVICES
IT IS NECESSARY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CONTRACTING PROCED-
URES IN EARLY MAY. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE102795
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HGROOM:BRC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780172-0268
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780428/aaaaaxe.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: df1454a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2880884
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS
TAGS: SNAR, APER, CO
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/df1454a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014